

Message Text

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10

ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00

USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-07 L-02 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 AID-05 SAM-01 OMB-01 IO-10 NIC-01

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O R 151215Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY KABUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1395

INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L KABUL 0972

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, AF, PK

SUBJ: CONCERN IN KABUL ON AFGHAN-PAK SITUATION

REF: KABUL 0956

1. DESPITE HEIGHTENED SENSE OF MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS (MFA) DIFFICULT TO DISCERN ANY PERCOLATION OF THIS TO OTHER ELEMENTS OF AFGHAN GOVERNMENT (GOA) MILITARY OR TO CITY OF KABUL. THE FRIDAY SCENE HERE (FEB. 14) SHOWED NO ELEMENT OF TENSION OR UNCERTAINTY, AND IN PARTICULAR WE NOTED NO RPT. NO SPECIAL TRAFFIC NOR SECURITY MEASSURES AT PRESIDENTIAL PALACE NOR DEFENSE MINISTRY.

2. GOA DID TAKE UNUSAL STEP OF RELEASINGHOFFICIAL GOVERNMENT COMMUNIQUE DURING EVENING NEWSCAST FEB. 13. (MOST SIMILAR PRONOUNCEMZNTS ARE BILLED AS "AN MFA SPOKESMAN REPLYING TO QUESTION BY BAKTAR NEWS AGENCY REPORTER SAID ETC..") COMMUNIQUE GENERALLY REITERATION OF GOA'S CONCERN OVER EVENTS IN PASHTUNISTAN-BALUCHISTAN, WHICH WHILE "DEPLORING ANY KIND OF ASSASSINATION AND VIOLENCE CONDEMNS PAKISTANI "OPRESSIVE, UNJUST
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AND UNDEMOCRATIC ACTIONS" AGAINST PEOPLE OF THAT AREA.

COMMUNIQUE CONTINUES THAT "PAKISTANI GOVERNMENT BEARS SOLE RESPONSIBILITY FOR CONSEQUENCES OF THIS CRITICAL SITUATION" AND THAT ACTION OF GOP SURELY WILL "STRENGTHEN RESOLVE OF DISSIDENTS. STATEMENT ENDS WITH ASSERTION AFGHANISTAN "CANNOT REMAIN UNCONCERNED AT THE EVENTS TAKING PLACE IN AREA.

3. PAK EMBASSY CONTACTS HAVE TOLD DATT THAT GOA HAS beefed up protection of PAK chancery and personnel. This possibly in answer to expectation, apparently shared by both Paks and Afghans here in Kabul, that some new "refugees" can be expected to make their way from Pakistan into Afghanistan. These will be N.A.P. adherents who have so far escaped PAK and possibly bear grudge against GOP. Same informants believed "troop buildup" alleged by Afghanistan may have been result of Bhutto buildup of federal security forces (not military forces) in NWFP area.

4. For time being, we continue to feel per para 8 ref tel that while we should continue to watch the situation closely, the Afghan MFA is pursuing tactics and ploys which need not be taken seriously in themselves by USG unless and until we detect change in what appears to be usual military security situation in Kabul and in border areas.
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